

The Pipeline

Volume 2000, Issue 15

April 14, 2000

This Time, Appearances Count

By Lisa Aug, CFC Communications



At CFC, we pride ourselves on valuing substance over appearance; getting our work done--done right, done better--is the most important thing. But sometimes, proving we're doing the job means looking like we're doing the job.

Next week's COA site visits constitute one of those times. The reviewers who will be judging us are likely to be influenced as much by our appearance, our language and what they see on our desks as by what's in our files. So for next week, we need everyone to put on what my grandmother used to call "White Gloves and Party Manners."

- Keep your desk as neat as possible. As Teresa Suter's coffee mug says, "a clear desk is a sign of an empty mind," but the files, papers, reports, etc. on your desk should be neatly arranged.
- Clear your work area of clutter. Put personal belongings (bags, sweaters, umbrellas) away; straighten and dust books, photos and decorative items, keep food in a refrigerator. Please refrain from eating at your desk next week.
- Dress professionally. You don't need to buy new clothes, but you do need to avoid jeans, sweatshirts and other casual items.
- Don't say anything you wouldn't want your grandmother to hear. Some of us enliven the workplace with our colorful language, but we forget that excessive use of profanity not only offends others, but is the sign of a weak vocabulary.

At any time, any one of us has 15 seconds – and one chance – to make a first impression. Make yours count!

Coming in May
Communicate and Connect
Watch for It!

Adobe Sand or Desert Sage?

By Lisa Aug, CFC Communications

Yes, sports fans, we are approaching the decision-making stages of the 5th floor executive pod construction: What color to paint the walls? Future tenants of the new offices have been viewing paint swatches on the walls and were to have made their choices this week. CHS Secretary Helton's executive staff should be moving into their new digs the week of May 12.



New CHS pod area awaiting color choice.

KECU Annual Meeting

Kentucky Employees Credit Union will hold its annual meeting on April 20 from noon until 1 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Health Services auditorium in the Health Services Building. Food will be served and doors prizes will be given away.

Pipeline, a weekly newsletter for employees of the Cabinet for Families and Children, welcomes reader comments and contributions. Items for Pipeline are due by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday. Call (502) 564-6786 or send information to Patricia Boler at Patricia.Boler@mail.state.ky.us

New Web Sites Protect Children, Aid CFC Staff

By Margaret Davis Harney, CFC Communications



The Division of Protection and Permanency, DPP, officially launched its policy site, <http://cfc-chs.chr.state.ky.us/cbs-dpp-pandp/>, on the CFC Web site March 24. The DPP site is a comprehensive source of information and is expected to be invaluable in helping employees in their work protecting children and families.

In addition to policy and standards of practice, the site also provides access to applicable Kentucky Administrative Regulations, Kentucky Revised Statutes, and Council on Accreditation Standards. A major feature of the site is a point and click process-map. The feature allows workers to follow a child through the system, from referral to placement in a permanent home, with a search application on each screen.

DPP employees worked with the TWIST staff of OTS in the development of the site and are very excited about its implementation, said Debbie Whitehouse of the CBS Family and Child Safety Branch.

A new public Internet site administered by the Kentucky State Police under Megan's Law legislation will also be an important aid in protecting Kentucky's children. The site, <http://kspso.state.ky.us>, will include photographs, addresses and a variety of other identifying information on sex offenders.

The site is a result of Senate Bill 263, signed by Gov. Paul Patton on April 11. With the signing of the bill, Gov. Patton strengthened Kentucky's role in monitoring sexual predators, and designated revisions to Kentucky's Megan's Law take effect immediately as "emergency legislation."

In addition to increasing the number of individuals who must register as sex offenders and the time period they must remain registered, SB 263, also places greater restrictions on offenders residing within 1,000 feet of a school or licensed day-care center, and changes the way information on sex offenders is given to the public.

Local sheriffs' offices previously released the information to the public; now the State Police will release it. The KSP Web site is under construction, but is expected to include a complete list of sex offenders by January 2001. Until a complete list of sex offenders can be entered, the agency will post information on offenders as they are released.

The KIPDA Region's Web site, <http://cfc-chs.chr.state.ky.us/kipda/>, is the newest addition to the official CFC site, launched April 13. Rick Ward, Community Based Services in Jefferson County, was the guiding force in developing the new site.

Helpful Web Sites

By Margaret Davis Harney, CFC Communications



Something new will be added to these *Helpful Web Sites* each week. Remember to "bookmark" the ones you will want to refer to often. If you've found a helpful site you would like to share in this column, e-mail it to

<mailto:margaret.harney@mail.state.ky.us>.

(*Note: This column is provided for informational purposes only and is not intended to be an endorsement for any site or its content.*)

Health

<http://cfc-chs.chr.state.ky.us/chs/news/CHSNewsindex.htm>—Health Services employee newsletter.

Children

<http://www.cwla.org> — Child Welfare League of America.

<http://www.os.dhhs.gov> — U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

<http://www.iamyourchild.org> — I Am Your Child, information on early childhood development.

Miscellaneous

<http://www.kydirect.net> — state forms, applications and merchandise.

Education and Research

<http://www.kde.state.ky.us/comm/commrel/taketest> — a sample of the performance-based assessment test students in Kentucky's public schools take each April, using actual questions from the 1999 test at the middle school level. Take the sample test and share in your children's experience.

<http://www.kcvu.org> — Kentucky's Virtual University, where you can attend class online.

<http://www.kde.state.ky.us> — Kentucky Department of Education.

<http://www.itools.com/research-it> — an online reference library complete with dictionary, thesaurus and translation tools.

<http://www.kctcs.net> — Kentucky Community and Technical Colleges System.



Frankfort Area Notes and Activities

Two sessions on services provided by the Kentucky Public Employees' Deferred Compensation Authority will be held in the Health Services auditorium June 7. Jolene VanHorne, a representative of the Authority, will present information at 10 a.m. and again at 2 p.m.